

Date

Paul P. Price, Jr.
805 Jackson Street
Winnsboro, Louisiana 71295

Re: Ethics Board Docket No. 2021-005

Dear Mr. Price:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its February 5, 2021 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion as to whether your potential position with the Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative would be a violation of the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics.

FACTS PROVIDED

You are chairman of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of Franklins Parish Hospital Service District #1 d/b/a Franklin Medical Center ("FMC").

You have been asked to take an editor position with the *Powerlines* newsletter published by the Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative ("NLPC"). The position would be compensated.

FMC is a paid advertiser in the newsletter published by the NLPC.

LAWS

La. R.S. 42:1111C(2)(d) provides that no public servant and no legal entity in which the public servant exercises control or owns an interest in excess of twenty-five percent, shall receive any thing of economic value for or in consideration of services rendered, or to be rendered, to or for any person during his public service unless such services are: (d) Neither performed for nor compensated by any person or from any officer, director, agent, or employee of such person, if such public servant knows or reasonably should know that such person has or is seeking to obtain contractual or other business or financial relationships with the public servant's agency.

ANALYSIS

If your service as editor of the NPLC newsletter is compensated, such employment while a member of Board would be a violation of La. R.S. 1111C(2)(d), as NPLC has existing business relationships with FMC.

CONCLUSION

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit you from being compensated by NLPC while serving as a member of the Board for FMC.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts as presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or as to laws other than the Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 842-6630 or (225) 219-5600.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Charles E. Reeves, Jr.
For the Board

DISCLAIMER
This is a draft opinion and it is **NOT** an opinion of the Louisiana Board of Ethics. The analysis and conclusions herein are provided for discussion purposes only and are subject to change or revision at the meeting of the Board of Ethics at which this matter is considered.